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|  <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p> | Date: | September 26, 2011 |
| | Agenda Item No. | 6 |
| | Roll Call No. | <u>11-1613</u> |
| | Communication No. | <u>11-606</u> |
| | Submitted by: | Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer |

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorize the City Manager to submit a “Safe Routes to School” (SRTS) FY2013 Fund Application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).

SYNOPSIS:

The IDOT administers an annual SRTS program. City staff proposes a project to install sidewalk on the south side of East Park Avenue between SE 14th Street and SE 18th Court be submitted for SRTS funding. The total estimated project cost is \$150,000: \$125,000 construction costs and \$25,000 design and incidental costs. Construction costs, which are estimated to be \$125,000, would be requested from the SRTS program funding. Staff recommends approval and authorization to submit an application to the IDOT for SRTS funds for this project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: The construction costs are eligible for 100% federal funding. Design and incidental costs are estimated to be \$25,000.

Funding Source: The construction costs would be 100% federally funded. Design and construction administration costs would be paid from the 2011-12 Capital Improvement Program, Street Improvements, Sidewalks – School and Priority Routes, STR081, page Street Improvements - 29.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The 2005 Federal Transportation Act (SAFETEA-LU: Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) authorizes and provides annual funding for a program entitled “Safe Routes to School” (SRTS). The IDOT administers this program, which will fund approximately \$1.5 million in FY2013 state-wide. This year’s project applications must be submitted to the IDOT by October 1, 2011 to be considered.

This federal funding program is intended to enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school; to make walking and bicycling to school safe and more appealing; and to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects that will provide safety, and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

Staff recommends that the following project be submitted for this year, as follows:

East Park Avenue Sidewalk – SE 14th Street to SE 18th Court

This project will install sidewalk along the south side of East Park Avenue between SE 14th Street and SE 18th Court, thereby completing an important “missing link” in the sidewalk network for Jackson Elementary School and Weeks Middle School. The total estimated project cost is \$150,000: \$125,000 construction costs and \$25,000 design and incidental costs. The construction cost, which is estimated at \$125,000, would be requested from SRTS funds.

City staff is working with the Des Moines Independent Community School District to collect the necessary data and to prepare an application that would be submitted to IDOT for funding.

By Roll Call Number 11-1533, at the August 29, 2011 City Council meeting, this section of sidewalk was approved as a “high priority” sidewalk.

At their September 13, 2011 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee unanimously voted in support of submitting an application for funding of this project.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 29, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-1533

Action: (A) [Authorization](#) to proceed with a high priority sidewalk project on E. Park Avenue between SE 14th Street to SE 18th Court. Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Traffic Safety Committee

Date: September 13, 2011

Resolution Number: A motion was made by Kevin Williamson to approve staff’s recommendation that a project to install sidewalk on the south side of East Park Avenue between SE 14th Street and SE 18th Court be submitted to the IDOT for consideration in their FY2013 funding program; seconded by Scott Galenbeck. Motion passed 5:0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval of future project agreements with the IDOT.

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